

I AM Navy Medicine

RSS : Posts Comments

NAVY MEDICINE LIVE

THE OFFICIAL BLOG OF U.S. NAVY AND MARINE CORPS HEALTH CARE • 2011 & 2012 WINNER OF BEST NAVY BLOG

HomeAboutDisclaimerNavy Medicine NewsNavy Medicine WebSiteI AM Navy Medicine

Written on AUGUST 8, 2011 AT 12:25 PM by PDILLARD

Navy Reserves Have Major Impact on NATO Role 3 in Kandahar

Filed under UNCATEGORIZED

[NO COMMENTS]



(From left to right) Cmdr. Julie Wetmore, Lt. Cmdr. Dana Phillips, Capt. Mary Daack and Capt. Todd Bahl are just some of the Navy reserve component nurses serving at the NATO Role 3 hospital in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

By Capt. Mike McCarten, commanding officer of the NATO Role 3 Multinational Medical Unit, Kandahar, Afghanistan. McCarten is a U.S. Navy family physician and aerospace medicine specialist.

I command the NATO trauma hospital south of Kandahar City, the NATO Role 3 Multinational Medical Unit (MMU) staffed with 225 men and women from Navy Medicine. To them, the scenes in the hospital trauma bays are familiar: crowds of emergency room doctors and nurses, surgeons and technicians all feverishly attending to a fallen Soldier or Marine. I was caught off guard one day when, rather than our trauma docs

running the show, our pediatric intensivist, Capt. Jon Woods, was at the head of the bed. Except for Dr. Woods, the crew was wearing blue operating room gowns and masks, indicating this was a case of infection rather than trauma. Heading up the crew with Dr. Woods was Lt. Cmdr. Dana Phillips, a reserve component (RC) Nurse Corps officer from Newark, N.J.

The patient that day was a very ill 8-year-old Afghan girl with pneumonia and meningitis. As work on the child proceeded she went into cardiac arrest without warning.

In his typically calm voice, Dr. Woods said “please start chest compressions.” As the team began compressions, Lt. Phillips asked a hospital corpsman to “go to the intensive care unit (ICU) and get help” in an equally calm voice. Within minutes three ICU nurses arrived, each stepping in to assume control of crucial tasks: managing the airway, starting another IV, drawing blood, administering the meds, etc. What unfolded over the next 20 minutes was the most professionally managed pediatric code I’ve witnessed in my 30-year medical career. It was readily apparent to me that Dr. Woods knew exactly what to do with each turn of events. It was equally apparent that each of the assembled nurses was similarly adept in their professions as each step of the way required more and more sophisticated interventions. As the resuscitated child was wheeled to the ICU, I realized that all three ICU nurses were, like

Navy Medicine Video

Navy Medicine is a global healthcare network of 63,000 Navy medical personnel around the world who provide high quality health care to more than one million eligible beneficiaries. Navy Medicine personnel deploy with Sailors and Marines worldwide, providing critical mission support aboard ship, in the air, under the sea and on the battlefield.

Navy Medicine Social Media

twitter Follow us on Twitter

facebook Join us on Facebook

issuu Read our publications

flickr View our photo stream

YouTube Watch our videos

Navy Medicine Live Archives

March 2015 (7)

February 2015 (16)

January 2015 (12)

December 2014 (17)

Lt. Phillips, from the RC: Capt. Mary Daack from Meriden, Kan., Capt. Todd Bahl from Snohomish, Wash. and Cmdr. Julie Wetmore from Lincoln, Ill.

The role of the RC in Kandahar cannot be overestimated. One third of our hospital staff, including 80 percent of the nursing staff, is from the RC. Every corps of Navy Medicine has been represented on the Role 3 staff by RC members. The RC comes to deployment with a seasoned set of skills, each with tremendous depth of experience and maturity and each with a ‘can do’ attitude that significantly contributes to our outstanding success. It is no exaggeration to say we can’t do this without the RC.

For more information about practicing medicine with the Navy Reserve, visit <http://www.navyreserve.com/careers/healthcare.html>

← Next post

Previous post →

pdillard tagged this post with: *[Afghanistan](#), [BUMED](#), [hospital](#), [Kandahar](#), [medical](#), [military](#), [NATO](#), [Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery](#), [Navy Medicine](#), [Role 3](#)*

Read 33 articles by [pdillard](#)

November 2014 (11)
October 2014 (15)
September 2014 (20)
August 2014 (14)
July 2014 (13)
June 2014 (8)
May 2014 (11)
April 2014 (9)
March 2014 (14)
February 2014 (7)
January 2014 (7)
December 2013 (7)
November 2013 (12)
October 2013 (7)
September 2013 (14)
August 2013 (13)
July 2013 (11)
June 2013 (22)
May 2013 (15)
April 2013 (14)
March 2013 (14)
February 2013 (14)
January 2013 (12)
December 2012 (11)
November 2012 (11)
October 2012 (7)
September 2012 (9)
August 2012 (12)
July 2012 (13)
June 2012 (17)
May 2012 (22)
April 2012 (14)
March 2012 (13)
February 2012 (14)
January 2012 (13)
December 2011 (13)
November 2011 (20)
October 2011 (22)
September 2011 (12)